

SUBJECT:	Changing sunset review dates for certain state agencies and entities
COMMITTEE:	State Affairs — favorable, without amendment
VOTE:	11 ayes — Hunter, Hernandez, Dean, Geren, Metcalf, Raymond, Slawson, Smithee, Spiller, S. Thompson, Turner  0 nays  2 absent — Anchía, Guillen
SENATE VOTE:	On final passage (April 18) — 31 - 0
WITNESSES:	None ( <i>considered in a formal meeting on April 20</i> )
BACKGROUND:	Some have suggested that changing the sunset review dates for certain state agencies and entities would balance the workload for Sunset Advisory Commission staff and ensure sufficient attention could be given to each agency under review.
DIGEST:	SB 1659 would change the sunset review date from September 1, 2025 to September 1, 2029 for the following agencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;</li><li>• the State Commission on Judicial Conduct;</li><li>• the Judicial Branch Certification Commission;</li><li>• the State Preservation Board;</li><li>• the State Pension Review Board;</li><li>• the Department of Information Resources;</li><li>• the Texas Department of Insurance and the Division of Workers' Compensation of the Texas Department of Insurance;</li><li>• the Office of Public Insurance Counsel; and</li><li>• the Office of Injured Employee Counsel.</li></ul>

The bill would change the sunset review date from September 1, 2027 to

September 1, 2029 for:

- the Texas Education Agency;
- the Expanded Learning Opportunities Council;
- the Texas Public Finance Authority;
- the Texas Facilities Commission;
- the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation; and
- the Commission on State Emergency Communications.

The bill would change the sunset review date from September 1, 2025 to September 1, 2033 for:

- the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors;
- the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists; and
- the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners;

The bill would change the sunset review date from September 1, 2027 to September 1, 2033 for the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners.

The bill would change the sunset review date from September 1, 2029 to September 1, 2033 for:

- the State Board of Dental Examiners;
- the Texas Board of Nursing;
- the Texas Optometry Board;
- the Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners;
- the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners;
- the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners;
- the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council;
- the Texas State Board of Pharmacy;

The bill would change the sunset review date from September 1, 2031 to September 1, 2033 for:

- the Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council;
- the Texas Medical Board;
- the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
- the Texas Board of Public Accountancy;
- the Texas Real Estate Commission; and
- the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board.

The bill would change the sunset review date from September 1, 2033 to September 1, 2035 for:

- the Department of Agriculture;
- the Board of Directors of the Official Cotton Growers' Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation;
- the Texas Animal Health Commission;
- the Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board;
- the Credit Union Department;
- the Texas Commission on Fire Protection;
- the Commission on Jail Standards;
- the Teacher Retirement System of Texas;
- the Parks and Wildlife Department;
- the Brazos River Authority; and
- the Gulf Coast Protection District.

SB 1659 would remove the Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District from the sunset review process.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2023.